

Application Serial No.: 09/741,297

**In the Claims**

Claims 20-41 (Canceled)

42. (New) A method for transforming a plant cell or tissue susceptible to *Agrobacterium* Induced Necrosis (AIN) with a nucleotide sequence of interest, the method comprising:

(a) co-cultivating *Agrobacterium* comprising a nucleotide sequence of interest with a plant cell or tissue in a medium which contains an AIN inhibitor consisting of silver nitrate; and

(b) selecting a transformed plant cell or tissue comprising said nucleotide sequence of interest.

43. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein said inhibitor is present in said medium at a concentration of from 0.1 to 20 mg/l.

44. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein said inhibitor is present in said medium at a concentration of from 1 to 10mg/l.

45. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein prior to co-cultivation with *Agrobacterium* said plant cell or tissue is pre-cultivated on a medium which comprises silver nitrate.

46. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein following co-cultivation with *Agrobacterium* said plant cell or tissue is cultivated on a medium which comprises silver nitrate.

47. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein said plant cell or tissue is an embryo cell or embryo tissue.

48. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein said plant cell or tissue is an embryogenic callus cell or embryogenic callus tissue.

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49. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein said plant cell or tissue is a gramineous cell or gramineous tissue.

50. (New) The method of claim 49, wherein said gramineous cell or gramineous tissue is a maize cell or maize tissue.

51. (New) A method for transforming a plant cell or tissue susceptible to *Agrobacterium* Induced Necrosis (AIN) with a nucleotide sequence of interest, the method comprising:

(a) pre-cultivating a plant cell or tissue on a pre-culture medium which comprises silver nitrate;

(b) co-cultivating *Agrobacterium* comprising a nucleotide sequence of interest with said plant cell or tissue in a medium which contains an AIN inhibitor consisting of silver nitrate; and

(c) selecting on a medium comprising silver nitrate a transformed plant cell or tissue comprising said nucleotide sequence of interest.

52. (New) The method of claim 51, wherein said plant cell or tissue is an embryo cell or embryo tissue.

53. (New) The method of claim 51, wherein said plant cell or tissue is an embryogenic callus cell or embryogenic callus tissue.

54. (New) The method of claim 51, wherein said plant cell or tissue is a gramineous cell or gramineous tissue.

55. (New) The method of claim 54, wherein said gramineous cell or gramineous tissue is a maize cell or maize tissue.